United Nations A/60/L.20

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
10 November 2005

Original: English

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 73
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Yemen: draft resolution

Strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 57/152 of 16 December 2002, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/25 of 5 December 2003, 58/214 and 58/215 of 23 December 2003, 59/212 of 20 December 2004, 59/231 and 59/233 of 22 December 2004 and 59/279 of 19 January 2005,

Commending the prompt response, continued support, generous assistance and contributions of the international community, by Governments, civil society, the private sector and individuals, in the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, which reflect the spirit of international solidarity and cooperation to address the disaster,

05-59878 (E) 111105

Noting the Declaration on Action to Strengthen Emergency Relief, Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Prevention in the Aftermath of the Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster of 26 December 2004,[1] adopted at the special meeting of leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, held in Jakarta on 6 January 2005,

Recalling the Hyogo Declaration[2] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015,[3] as well as the common statement of the Special Session on the Indian Ocean disaster, adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held at Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005,

Noting the communiqué relating to support for tsunami and multihazard warning systems within the context of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems, adopted at the third Earth Observation Summit, in Brussels,' on 16 February 2005,

Taking note of the joint Asian-African leaders' statement on tsunami, earthquake and other natural disasters, adopted at the Asian-African Summit 2005, held in Jakarta on 22 and 23 April 2005,

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction, recovery and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster,[4]

Welcoming the appointment of President William Jefferson Clinton as the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery and the establishment of the Global Consortium for Tsunami-Affected Countries to sustain the political will of the international community to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk-reduction efforts led by the Governments of affected countries,

Taking note with appreciation of the convening of the Global Consortium for Tsunami-Affected Countries in June and September 2005, aimed at improving coordination among relevant stakeholders and developing a common online tracking system and common indicators to monitor and evaluate the impact of tsunami relief and rehabilitation programmes, which emphasizes the need to promote national ownership of the tracking processes in tsunami-affected countries,

Welcoming ongoing efforts by the international system to capture, consolidate and disseminate lessons learned from the tsunami response and recovery to guide future disaster management at all levels,

Welcoming also the establishment of the Multi-Donor Voluntary Trust Fund on Tsunami Early Warning Arrangements in the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia, which will contribute to setting up a multinodal early warning system network and to building up the capacity of the region in dealing with natural disasters,

Welcoming further the proposed convening of a Third International Conference on Early Warning, in Bonn, Germany, from 27 to 29 March 2006, covering the

---

[1] A/59/669, annex.

[2] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

[3] Hyogo Framework for Action, 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2).

[4] A/60/86-E/2005/77.

complete range of natural hazards, with a focus on the urgent implementation of early warning systems for hydrometeorological and geological hazards on a global scale,

Stressing the need to develop and implement risk-reduction strategies and to integrate them, where appropriate, into national development plans, in particular through the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, so as to enhance the resilience of populations in disasters and reduce risks to them, their livelihoods, the social and economic infrastructure and environmental resources,

Emphasizing that disaster reduction, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

Stressing the need for continued commitment to assist the affected countries and their peoples, particularly the most vulnerable groups, to fully recover from the catastrophic and traumatic effects of the disaster, including in their medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, and welcoming Government and international assistance measures in this regard,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts by the Governments of affected countries to complete the emergency relief phase and move forward to the rehabilitation and reconstruction phase, as well as in enhancing financial transparency and accountability with respect to the channelling and utilization of resources, including, as appropriate, through the involvement of international public auditors;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of President William Jefferson Clinton, the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery, and his various initiatives and encourages his efforts to continue advocating the political will of the international community, particularly regional and international financial institutions, civil society and the private sector, to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk-reduction efforts led by the Governments of affected countries;

3. *Encourages* donor countries and international and regional financial institutions, as well as the private sector and civil society, to strengthen partnerships and to continue supporting the medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction needs of the affected countries, including through the swift delivery of pledges made by donors;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to promote transparency and accountability among donors and recipient countries by means of, inter alia, a unified financial and sectoral information online tracking system — a development assistance database — with the support and participation of the Global Consortium, and highlights the importance of timely and accurate information on assessed needs and the sources and uses of funds;

5. *Encourages* the continued effective coordination among the Governments of affected countries, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, international organizations, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions, civil society and private sectors involved in relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in order to ensure adequate response to the remaining humanitarian needs

and effective implementation of existing joint programmes and to prevent unnecessary duplication, as well as to reduce vulnerability to future natural hazards;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen the United Nations institutional mechanism and capacities in support of national and local authorities for the coordination of tsunami disaster-recovery efforts;

7. *Reaffirms* that all regional efforts should serve the purpose of strengthening international cooperation aimed at the creation of a global multihazard early warning system, including the newly established Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System;

8. *Stresses* the need for the development of stronger institutions, mechanisms and capacities at the regional, national and local levels, as affirmed in the Hyogo Declaration[2] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015,[3] as well as through the promotion of public education, awareness and community participation, in order to systematically build resilience to hazards and disasters, as well as reduce the risks and the vulnerability of populations to disasters, particularly in developing countries;

9. *Urges* Governments and the United Nations system, in planning for disaster preparedness and responding to natural disasters and implementing recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, to integrate a gender perspective and to ensure that women take an active and equal role in all phases of disaster management;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore ways to strengthen the rapid-response capacities of the international community to provide immediate humanitarian relief, building on existing arrangements and ongoing initiatives;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in 2006.